ſhadow of ſuch a doubt remain on her huſband's mind a moment.

But to ſtate the ſubject in a different light,—The want of modeſty, which I principally deplore as ſubverſive of morality, ariſes from the ſtate of warfare ſo ſtrenuouſly ſupported by voluptuous men as the very eſſence of modeſty, though, in fact, its bane; becauſe it is a refinement on luſt, that men fall into who have not ſufficient virtue to reliſh the innocent pleaſures of love. A man of delicacy carries his notions of modeſty ſtill further, for neither weakneſs nor ſenſibility will gratify him—he looks for affection.

Again; men boaſt of their triumphs over women, what do they boaſt of? Truly the creature of ſenſibility was ſurpriſed by her ſenſibility into folly—into vice*; and the dreadful reckoning falls heavily on her own weak head, when reaſon wakes. For where art thou to find comfort, forlorn and diſconſolate one? He who ought to have directed thy reaſon, and ſupported thy weakneſs, has betrayed thee! In a dream of paſſion thou conſentedſt to wander through flowery lawns,

* The poor moth fluttering round a candle, burns its wings.

and

and heedleſsly ſtepping over the precipice to which thy guide, inſtead of guarding, lured thee, thou ſtarteſt from thy dream only to face a ſneering, frowning world, and to find thyſelf alone in a waſte, for he that triumphed in thy weakneſs is now purſuing new conqueſts; but for thee—there is no redemption on this ſide the grave!—And what reſource has thou in an enervated mind to raiſe a ſinking heart?

But, if the ſexes are really to live in a ſtate of warfare, if nature has pointed it out, let men act nobly, or let pride whiſper to them, that the victory is mean when they merely vanquiſh ſenſibility. The real conqueſt is that over affection not taken by ſurpriſe—when, like Heloiſa, a woman gives up all the world, deliberately, for love. I do not now conſider the wiſdom or virtue of ſuch a ſacrifice, I only contend that it was a ſacrifice to affection, and not merely to ſenſibility, though ſhe had her ſhare.—And I muſt be allowed to call her a modeſt woman, before I diſmiſs this part of the ſubject, by ſaying, that till men are more chaſte women will be immodeſt. Where, indeed, could modeſt women find huſbands from whom they would

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